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**Congress of the United States**  
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**Washington, DC 20515-4319**

COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEES  
SELECT REVENUE  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
TRADE

JOINT ECONOMIC  
COMMITTEE

October 22, 2021

Administrator Michael Regan  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Administrator Regan,

As the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) develops revisions to the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities and Emission Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Sectors under the Clean Air Act, we urge the EPA to suspend publication of any related proposal until the Department of Energy completes their study titled, "Quantification of Methane Emissions from Marginal Oil and Gas Wells."

The objective of this federally funded study is to quantify methane emissions from marginal oil and gas well-sites at various basins across the United States, including the Permian Basin. Scheduled for public release in December 2021, the report will provide critical data on emissions from low producing wells, which must be considered in any forthcoming EPA Emissions Rule. There is an ongoing debate regarding the efficacy of regulating emissions from low production wells, and it is important to acknowledge key information this study will provide regarding where in the production chain emissions are detectable.

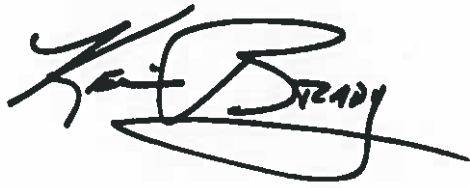
Approximately 75 percent of the existing oil and natural gas wells in the United States are low producing wells. Any regulatory change will affect the business of thousands of operators, their dependents, as well as state and local revenues that rely on robust energy production. To ensure the EPA promulgates a rule relating to emissions in good faith, publication must be postponed until the ongoing study is finalized, and the study's findings must be taken into consideration during the drafting process. Not only would it be irresponsible to do otherwise, but it would needlessly jeopardize our nation's small and independent oil and gas producers.

It is vital that New Source Performance Standards and Emissions Guidelines for the oil and gas sector be cost-effective, reasonable, and based on the best available information. Thank you for your attention to this matter and your urgent consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Jodey C. Arrington  
Member of Congress



Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



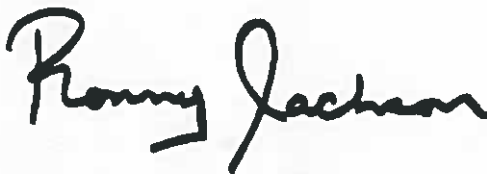
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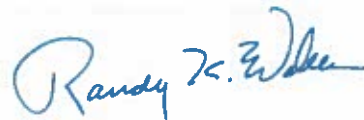
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